

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

UNCLAS HARARE 001079

SIPDIS

ECA/PE/V/G/A FOR BARBARA REED  
INFO AF/PD FOR COX AND ROBERTSON, AF/S FOR KRAFT AND  
SCHLACHTER

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ZI](#) [PREL](#) [PHUM](#)

SUBJECT: FORMER IV GRANTEE BECOMES PUBLISHER

- [1](#)1. IV alumnus Mark Chavhunduka (Multi-regional project on print journalism, May 1992) has, at 36, become Zimbabwe's youngest publisher.
- [1](#)2. Chavhunduka, who until this month was editor of the independent weekly "The Standard," has assumed control of Thompson Publications. Thompson publishes several magazines, including the country's largest circulating monthly magazine "Parade."
- [1](#)3. Chavhunduka's control of Thompson will strengthen the private media in Zimbabwe. His commitment to freedom of the media is well known. In spite of having been detained and tortured by the Zimbabwean military in January 1999 (after his newspaper published a report alleging an attempted coup within the military), Chavhunduka remained as editor of the Standard and continued to publish articles and opinion pieces critical of the Government of Zimbabwe.
- [1](#)4. Chavhunduka has told us that the IV program, which brought him into regular contact with Embassy Harare and media organizations in the U.S., strengthened his abilities as a journalist and helped sustain him through the pressures he has faced.

SULLIVAN